

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES BY JOHN F. BURNS, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15, HEADED "VORSTER AND SMITH HAVE LONG DISCUSSION IN PRETORIA."

2. PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SEPT. 14--PRIME MINISTER IAN D. SMITH OF RHODESIA LEFT HERE GRIM-FACED TODAY AFTER A FOUR-AND-A-HALF-HOUR MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER JOHN VORSTER OF SOUTH AFRICA IN WHICH THE TWO MEN HAD WHAT WERE DESCRIBED AS "A FULL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" ON THE RHODESIAN SITUATION.

3. THE 57-YEAR-OLD RHODESIAN LEADER WAS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY BRUSQUE AS HE WALKED SWIFTLY PAST REPORTERS OUTSIDE MR. VORSTERS' OFFICE, TURNING AWAY QUESTIONS ON HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD EFFORTS BY THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH AFRICA TO BRING A PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE IN THE BREAK-  
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AWAY COLONY.

4. MR. SMITH TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WAS IN A HURRY TO FLY BACK TO RHODESIA, WHERE HE WAS TO SPEAK AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF THE RHODESIAN FRONT PARTY AT UMTALI. MR. VORSTER WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT, BUT AN AIDE READ A BRIEF COMMUNIQUE.

5. "THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTERS HELD TALKS IN PRETORIA TODAY ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA," THE COMMUNIQUE SAID. "FOLLOWING HIS RECENT MEETING WITH MR. KISSINGER, MR. VORSTER WAS ABLE TO CONVEY VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW BEARING ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE REGION TO MR. SMITH. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A FULL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS."

6. NEITHER SIDE COMMENTS. NEITHER SIDE IN THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD COMMENT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER TALKS. NOR WAS THERE ANY FIRM INDICATION OF WHETHER MR. SMITH EXPECTS TO MEET WITH SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER, WHO ARRIVES HERE FOR THREE DAYS OF TALKS WITH MR. VORSTER FRIDAY. REPORTERS TRAVELING WITH MR. KISSINGER HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT A SMITH MEETING WOULD DEPEND ON THE RHODESIAN FIRST COMMITTING HIMSELF UNEQUIVOCALLY TO THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE.

7. "I THINK A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS ON HOW THE ITINERANT NEGOTIATOR GETS ON IN THE NORTHERN CAPITALS," A RHODESIAN AIDE COMMENTED AFTER TODAY'S SESSION, MEANING MR. KISSINGER'S TALKS IN TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA, WHICH PRECEDE HIS ARRIVAL HERE.

8. THE SECRETARY IS ATTEMPTING TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF TANZANIA'S PRESIDENT, JULIUS K. NYERERE, AND ZAMBIA'S PRESIDENT, KENNETH A. KAUNDA, FOR HIS PEACE PLAN, WHICH WILL ALSO HINGE ON THE READINESS OF RHODESIA'S FACTION-RIDDEN BLACK NATIONALISTS TO RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH MR. SMITH.

9. THE MEETING TODAY TOOK PLACE IN MR. VORSTER'S RICHLY PANELLED OFFICE IN THE UNION BUILDINGS, THE SEAT OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. AS THE TWO MEN MET WITH THEIR AIDES, TOURISTS WANDERED ALONG THE COLONNADED PORTICOS ONLY A FEW YARDS AWAY, OR RELAXED IN THE SPRING SUNSHINE IN THE ADJACENT GARDENS, ENJOYING THE PANORAMIC VIEW.

10. AT A RALLY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S GOVERNING NATIONAL PARTY IN THE CAPITAL LAST NIGHT, MR. VORSTER VOWED NOT TO FORCE MR. SMITH INTO AN ACCEPTANCE OF BLACK RULE IN RHODESIA

AGAINST HIS WILL, A POSSIBILITY THAT DERIVES FROM SOUTH AFRICA'S CONTROL OF RHODESIA'S SUPPLIES. HOWEVER, IT SEEMED CLEAR THAT THE RHODESIAN LEADER WAS, IN FACT, UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE TO SIT DOWN ONCE AGAIN WITH HIS BLACK NATIONALIST ADVERSARIES AND NEGOTIATE A TRANSFER OF POWER.

A PREMISE OF MR. KISSINGER'S DIPLOMACY FROM THE START HAS BEEN MR. VORSTER'S WILLINGNESS TO GET MR. SMITH TO AGREE TO A TRANSFER OF POWER WITHIN TWO OR THREE YEARS, A BRITISH-ORIGINATED PROPOSAL THAT THE RHODESIAN LEADER HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED. HOWEVER, MR. VORSTER TOLD A PARTY RALLY THAT THE MOST HE WAS PREPARED TO DO WAS TO "GIVE COUNSEL AND ADVICE AND SHOW WHAT THE ALTERNATIVES ARE".

11. THE ASSERTION GAVE RISE TO CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS. SOME ANALYSTS HERE ARGUED THAT MR. VORSTER, WHO HAS MADE SIMILAR DECLARATIONS BEFORE, MEANT EXACTLY WHAT HE SAID. HOWEVER, SOURCES USUALLY CLOSE TO GOVERNMENT THINKING INSISTED THAT MR. VORSTER WAS TRYING TO ALLAY UNEASINESS IN THE RULING PARTY, AND HAD IN FACT ALREADY INITIATED A SLOW BUT PAINFUL SQUEEZE ON THE EQUIPMENT THAT RHODESIA'S WHITE MINORITY NEEDS TO SURVIVE. ROBINSON

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